Once again it gives great pleasure to welcome English opposition to Pontypool Park, with tonight’s visitors of course being Gloucester. This is Gloucester’s fourth visit to Wales this season, and on previous visits they have beaten Pontypridd and lost to Newbridge and Maesteg.

Coached by their former flankers, Dick Smith, the Gloucester side are currently joint holders of the John Player Cup. They share the cup with Moseley and this is the first time that the Trophy has been held jointly. Gloucester have twice previously won the cup.

For England’s tour of North America and Canada, Gloucester supplied Malcolm Pready, Steve Mills and Phil Blakeway and also flanker John Gadd, who is an England ‘B’ cap. Other current Gloucester players who have gained honours are; flanker Mike Teague, lock Steve Boyle and wing Richard Moggy, who have all played for England ‘B’; and Paul Ford, who has taken over the full back role from the recently retired Peter Ford and scrum half Steve Baker are England Under 23s caps.

A former Pontypool favourite has made the outside half spot his own, he is Lee Jones. Lee was playing well for Pontypool but found the travelling for training and playing was proving to be a handicap.

We expect the usual hard fought game with the Cherry and Whites, with Pontypool striving to avenge last season’s defeat at Kingsholm, when Pontypool lost their unbeaten record.

Graham Howden

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In Touch

It was good to see Staff Jones, Steve Jones and John Perkins gaining their just rewards by their inclusion in the Wales 'B' squad for the game against France 'B', here at the Park on Saturday 16th October. With luck, all three could make the final selection.

What a fine come-back David Bishop made to first class rugby last Saturday. The way David played, no one would have thought he had suffered such serious injury last November. He resumed where he left off and made it a story book ending with his try.

The Supporters' Club intend running a bus to Bedford on Saturday. It will depart Elm House at 10.00 a.m. and return 6.00 p.m., and the fare will be £4.00.

Do You Remember?

The result of the Pontypool versus Gloucester game ten seasons ago on Wednesday 14th March 1973, was a 13 points to 6 win for Gloucester. For Pontypool, Gordon Collins scored a try which Trevor Hoskins converted. The Gloucester points were scored by Richard Jardine (try), a Redwood (drop goal) and Eric Stephens who converted a penalty try.


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Pontypool vs. Gloucester

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Referee: Mr. Alan Richards (Cardiff)
Next Home Match: Abertawe Wed. 13th October, 1983

Programme Edited and Compiled by G.G. HOWELLS

Pontypool KI-ARIDO Club. Suitable for all ages. At the Pontypool Leisure Centre Mondays & Wednesdays at 8 p.m.